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and the stanzas, in praise of the fair maids of *Meirionydd*, are sung to it. The celebrated song in the Beggar's Opera of "Cease your funning" is a Welsh air, (*Lhwyd Onn*), varied a little. The song, which I wrote for Mr. Braham, called "Beauty in Tears," is to the same air. But, in order to give your readers an idea of the various styles and characters of the Welsh airs, it will be proper, that I should class them, making such observations on them, as I may deem proper, and point those out, which are mostly sung in these days. I have arranged and published two volumes of the Welsh Music for a military band; also a Collection for the piano-forte, flute, and violoncello; and a Selection of Melodies with appropriate English words, so that I am not unacquainted with their beauties*.

Wishing every possible success to the CAMBRO-BRITON,

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

July 15, 1819.

JOHN PARRY.

ORIGINAL LETTERS.

LETTER I.

Mr. EDWARD LLWYD † to Mr. HUMPHREY WANLEY ‡; dated
APLETON, February 8th, 1703.

SIR,—Your first letter being at Oxford, I could return no speedier answer to the last: nor can I indeed yet a satisfactory one. As for the names of *Foermen* and *Owun*, if you find the Saxons used them, there's no more to be said:—but, because you ask'd me whether they were not British names, I thought you took it for granted, or at least suspected, they were not Saxon.

* The late Mr. Owen Jones presented me with a book containing thirty airs, which were collected, among the Harpers in Wales, by a person employed by him for that purpose. Several of these have never been published.—J. P.

† The well-known author of the *Archæologia Britannica*, the first volume only of a comprehensive work, which he designed to publish, on the Language and Antiquities of Wales,—but which, unfortunately for his country, he did not live to complete. He was a native of Cardiganshire, and studied at Oxford, where he became keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, an office which he retained until his death, in 1709. He left behind him many valuable MSS. of Welsh learning, which were purchased by Sir Thomas Sebright, and continued for a long time in that family. It is to be feared, however, that they have since been destroyed by fire.—Ed.

‡ He was librarian to Lord Oxford, and arranged the famous Harleian Collection of MSS., now in the British Museum.—Ed.

I thank you for your transcript of the barbarous words in the Cambridge Psalter, some of which I know to be Irish, and conclude the rest, which I understand not, to be so, because in just the same hand. The papers enclosed were very acceptable, and are here returned as you desired. That the Irish received their alphabet from the Britons is the opinion of a learned and judicious author of their own country, Sir James Ware, in his *Disquisitiones de Hiberniâ*, &c., where he says, "Porro ut Hiberni olim utebantur linguâ antiquâ Britannicâ, ita etiam á priscis Britannis accipiebant alphabetam ceu literas, uti fortè Saxones postea ab Hibernis, dum ad scholas Hibernicas discendi gratiâ confluerunt." The same we find to be the opinion also of Bolandus, for which Flaherty is much displeased with him, in the third part of his *Ogygia*. As for letters among the Britans *, you know (whatsoever they had before the Roman Conquest) all are agreed, they became partly civilized upon that conquest. But, if there be any authentique proof, that the Anglo-Saxons (who, you know, came not in til about 400 years after) had the use of letters at their coming, 'tis, I must confess, what I am ignorant of.

I communicated a copy of the monument of Prince Kadvan † (which is a rude stone above the church door at Lhan Gadwaladr, in Anglesey), to Mr. Hicks, of Trevithic, whom you formerly mentioned, which he shewing with some others to Dr. Musgrave, of Exeter, the Dr. beg'd copies of them, and sent them to Dr. Sloan, who has printed them in the Philosophical Transactions. I did not, I think, mention in my last, that the monument was dated anno 607, but onely that Cadvan, whose monument I conclude that to be, was one of the British commanders at the battle of Bangor, which, according to the Chron. Sax., was that year. It's so plain and barbarous, that it contains nothing at all but "Catamannus Rex Sapientissimus, Opinatissimus Omnium Regum." I knew not at first there was such a word as *opinatissimus*; but 'tis a classical word, and the same with *celeberrimus*. The stone is, perhaps, but a piece of what it was at first.

I thank you heartily for your information concerning the lections out of Scripture in the MS. NE D. 2.—19; for I had neglected your having observed (that I now remember) no British words interlined, which were the maign notes I looked after. When I have spare time I hope to renew my acquaintance with

* The orthography of the original, in this and other instances, is scrupulously observed.—ED.

† Cadfan, son of Iago, was prince of North Wales in 603. In 613 he succeeded to the nominal sovereignty of Britain, and died in 630.—ED.

that valuable monument. I found several British words in Euteχ; for so the prefacer will have us read that name. He begins his preface *in honorem sumitonantis*, &c., which countenances your reading of the small paper sent in your last, which I now return, being able to adde nothing to your conjecture: nor could I, indeed, have read so much of it myself. The book is, no doubt of it, British;—but, whether you can call it Cambro-British may be scrupled. However, 'tis but leaving out the former part of the word, and you are safe.

My Irish vocabulary of obsolete words is but a transcript of the small one given to the Bodleian Library by Dr. Hyde: but I have also the old MS. ones, out of which that was printed, as I guesse. I mean not the same copies, but others antient and on velom. I have the Irish Catechism, both the Popish and Protestant. But the Highland Grammar and Lexicon, which you say the Duke of Argyle has, is what I never heard of, and shall therefore be heartily obliged if you can procure me the use of them, especially the latter.

If you write to Man, I should be glad of a copy of the eleventh chapter of Leviticus in Bp. Philips's Translation of the Bible; which, as I take it, was never printed, but is there in MS. I never saw any Welsh writing near so old as that you sent me out of the Lichfield MS., excepting three verses I lately sent to the Bp. of Hereford, who is so curious in our language and antiquities, that I am sure he would be very glad to see the Lichfield MS.

I know not the books you mention in the publique library written *litteris Hibernicis*, unlesse you mean those also in that language amongst Abp. Laud's. But I am at no great losse as to the reading part; but have far to seek for the old language as well as (I fear me) even all their own nation.

As to the older entries, you know they are all maim'd except two: nor are they indeed entire. The former I read thus:—
 “Ostendit ista conscriptio quòd dederunt Rhesus et Hirv
 “Brechfa * usque ad Hirfaen Gwydhog †, á solitudine Gelhi ‡
 “Irlath usque ad Camdhwyr §. Emolumenta ejus sunt sexa-
 “ginta panes et vervex et *gworthewyr* || butyri. Deus omnipotens
 “testis est. Sadyrnwydd, Sacerdos, testis; Nywys, T.; Gwrgi,
 “T.; Cwdhwyl, T.—De Laicis Cynwern, T.; Colhwyn, T.; Ky-
 “hyrged, T.; Ermin (ceu Ewyn), T.—Qui custodierit benedictus

* Nomen loci. † Columnnam saxeam conspicuam. ‡ Sylvæ.
 § Nomen fluvii. || Mensura hodiè ignota.

“erit, et qui franxerit maledictus a Dō.” The other, though best preserved, is not intelligible to me. The beginning seems plain, viz. “Surrexit Tydvwllch, filius Tinctoris, et Januarius “Eremita, ut postularent terram Teliavi, quæ erat in manu “Elevii, filii Gelhig et”

I am, Sir, your obliged friend and servant,

E. LHWYD.

LETTER II.

Mr. RICHARD GRUFFYDD * to CAMDEN; dated ANGLESEY,
January †.

GOOD MR. CLARENCEUX,—I have had your kind letters, and understand from this gentleman your great inquisitive care of my health and well-doyng, which of your only great curtesy doth procede and no merit in me, and maketh me so far beholding unto you, as I shall remain your dettoure.

You say, you will cast about for Amirate upon Tacitus, which, if you find, I pray you to deliver to this gentleman with a note of the price, which you shall receive with convenient speed. The letter I sent you I suspect myself, and yet, as I hear it is of recorde, I will know the trueth and certify you thereof.

As touching *Gwynedd* (which you miscalle *Gwenith*, in Welsh *wheat*,) my meaning and the dryfte of my last letter was (not determining ought myself) to offre and represent to your learned censure, if our *Gwynedd*, Vannes in Brytain, in Latin called *Veneti*, they of the same name *ad mare Adriaticum et ad mare Balticum*, where *Halmodius* doth place the towne of *Wynethum*, did participate in idemptitye of name, as I think they do, referring, if they do so, to your exquisite judgment to find out the cause and reason thereof. They *ad mare Balticum*, by consent of wryters, are thought to come of *Hencti*, in Asia, and their language is called *lingua Henctica*, being the Slavon tongue, and much commended as copieuse and significant. They *ad mare Adriaticum*, passing over particular opinions, are gene-

* Owing to the original MS. being torn, the name of Gruffydd does not appear in full. The first four letters are, however, legible: and I have ventured to supply the remainder, as not knowing any other Welsh name, to which such a beginning is applicable. Perhaps among the readers of the CAMBRO-BRITON it may be possible to procure some information of the writer.—ED.

† No year is mentioned.—ED.